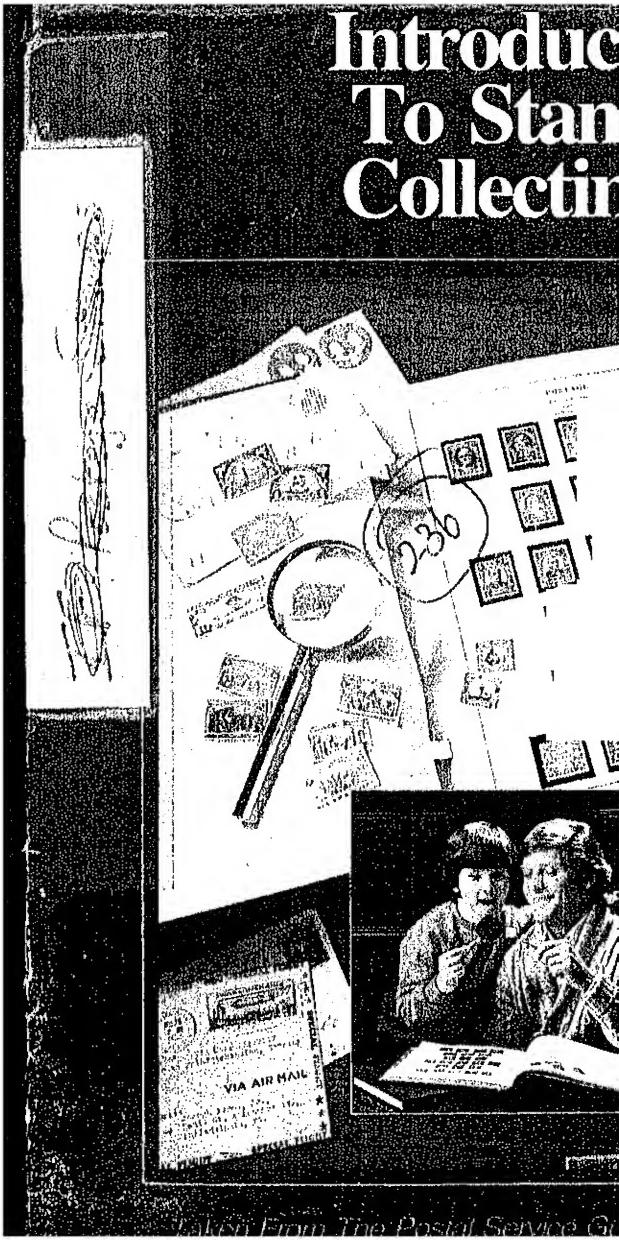


Introduc To Stan Collectin



Take From The Postal Service Of

Introduction To Stamp Collecting.



INTRODUCTION TO STAMP COLLECTING

Suppose someone asked you, "What is the most popular hobby in the world?" Since you're reading this book, you can probably guess the answer. That's right. It's stamp collecting. In the United States alone, about 22 million people are stamp collectors. And there are millions more around the world.

What makes stamps so fascinating? Some people think of stamps as tiny windows on the world. Most countries have stamps that show people or things or events that their citizens think are very important, or valuable, or beautiful. So when you look at a postage stamp, you learn something about the country it comes from.

Another reason people like to collect stamps is that many stamps are really works of art. Talented artists and photographers design the stamps. They are printed with great care and skill. Having a collection of beautiful stamps is like having an art gallery of your own.

Another thing that makes stamp collecting so popular is that there is no special age for it. You can enjoy stamp collecting just as much when you're 70 years old as when you're 10. In stamp collecting, you never run out of something to do. If you started now, and collected stamps for the rest of your life, you'd probably not be able to collect all the stamps in the world. The first postage stamp was issued in 1840. Since then, hundreds of thousands of different stamps have been issued by the countries of the world. But rather than trying to collect as many different kinds of stamps from as many places as you can, you'll probably find some types of stamps that are particularly interesting to you—and concentrate on collecting those.

Stamps can help with schoolwork. They can be used in special projects in classes like history, geography, and science. Also, stamp collecting is a merit badge activity for Scouts.

Stamp collecting doesn't have to be an expensive hobby. Of course, you could spend many thousands of dollars on stamps, but you can also be a collector without spending much money at all.

You can start out by asking your family and your friends to save used stamps for you. Just ask them to save the used stamps on envelopes they receive in the mail at their homes or businesses. As you gather stamps, you'll want to put them in order so you can show them to other people. A ring binder with loose leaf paper can be your first stamp album. But don't paste or tape your stamps into the album! That would destroy their value.

You'll find out how to handle your stamps throughout this section. But first, look at the next page. There you'll discover some stamps that are very famous or very rare. If you are just starting to collect stamps, this bit of history will give you a feeling for the past and for some of the interesting stories you'll discover as you continue collecting.

TYPES OF STAMPS

Many people who know about stamp collecting suggest that you shouldn't decide right away what kind of stamps you are going to collect. At first, they say, just get together as many different stamps as you can: United States stamps. Stamps from some other countries. Stamps that feature special subjects—birds, dogs, famous women, or Scouts, for example. (Stamps of this type are called *topicals*, because they are about one *topic*.) Then, after you've been collecting for a while, you'll have a better idea about what kind of stamps you want to specialize in. Just be sure to pick a type that has a lot of stamps, so you'll be able to get enough for a good-sized collection. U.S. commemoratives are an easy way to start.

Regular or Definitive Stamps These are the stamps you'll find on most mail. They are printed in unlimited quantities and sold by the Postal Service for long periods of time—several years, usually.



Regular or Definitive

Commemorative Stamps These stamps are issued to honor an important event, person, or special subject. They are usually larger and more colorful than definitives. They are sold for only a certain length of time—a few months, maybe, and are printed in limited quantities.

Coil Stamps These stamps are issued in rolls. Each stamp has two straight edges and two perforated edges.



Coil

Commemorative

Airmail Stamps U.S. airmail stamps are used for sending mail overseas.

Postage Due Stamps Postage due stamps are put on mail at the post office to show that the postage already paid was not enough. The amount shown on the stamp must be paid by the receiver of the mail.



Airmail

Postage Due

Special Delivery Stamps These stamps were sold to the sender for extra-fast delivery of the letter or package. They are not currently being produced by the Postal Service.



Special Delivery

WHAT KIND OF ALBUM?

A simple ring binder with loose-leaf pages will do very nicely for your first album. But after a while you may want to buy a special stamp album. It's usually best to buy an album with loose-leaf pages. Then you can add more pages as your collection grows.

There is a kind of album that does not have pictures of the stamps that are to go on the pages. It just has plastic pockets on the pages. This type of album is called a *stock book*. The pages can be placed in a binder. You can buy as many pages as you need to hold your stamps.

How to Remove Stamps from Covers

To get stamps off paper, you'll need a small pan with some warm (not hot) water in it, some newspapers or paper towels, and your tongs. Place a few stamps face down in the water. Wait a little while, until the stamps float off the paper. The stamps will sink to the bottom. The paper will float. As soon as the stamps are free, lift them out with the tongs, one by one. Place them face down on the newspaper or paper towel. If they dry flat, you can put them in your album. Follow carefully the next directions. If the stamps are curled up when they are dry, put them between the pages

of a telephone directory or another big, heavy book. Put another heavy book or some other kind of weight on top. Leave the stamps overnight. The next day they should be flat and ready to place in your album.

Putting Stamps in Your Album

You can use either folded or unfolded hinges to put stamps in your album. The shiny side is the gummed side. If you are using a folded hinge, lightly touch your tongue to the short side. Then, press the short side to the back of the stamp. Next, while holding the stamp with your tongs, touch your tongue to the long side of the hinge. Now put the stamp in its place on the album page, pressing it down with a blotter. (Never handle stamps with your fingers. Even if your hands are clean, oil from your skin may damage the stamps.) Finally, gently lift the corners of the stamp with the tongs to be sure it has not stuck to the page.

If you are collecting unused (called *uncancelled* or *mint*) stamps, you should use plastic mounts to put them in your album. Mounts will protect your stamps better than hinges. A mount is a small envelope that covers the whole stamp. It keeps air, grease, and dirt from damaging the stamp.



EQUIPMENT FOR STAMP COLLECTING

Suppose you have begun collecting stamps—from friends, family, businesses, and visiting the post office to look for new U.S. issues. You also have some kind of album. What else will you need for your hobby?

- A. Tongs** for moving a stamp from one place to another, especially when handling unused stamps, to prevent damage.
- B. Hinges** for attaching stamps to the pages of your album. Hinges come either folded or unfolded.
- C. Mounts** are small plastic envelopes. They cost more money than hinges, but are necessary to protect unused stamps.
- D. A package of glassine (glass-ene) envelopes** to hold different kinds of stamps until you are

ready to put them in an album. Glassine is a special kind of thin paper that keeps grease and air from damaging stamps.

- E. Stamp catalog** to help you identify stamps and give you other information about them, including their value, used and unused.
- F. Magnifying glass**, four- or six-power, to help you distinguish stamps that seem to be the same.
- G. Perforation gauge** to help you identify stamps. It is used to measure the size and number of perforations (cuts or holes along the edges) on stamps.

H. Watermark fluid and a watermark tray of black glass or plastic. The stamp is placed face down in the tray and covered with a few drops of the watermark fluid. Then the watermark shows up. Watermark fluid can be dangerous, so be careful in following the directions.



STAMP VOCABULARY

Adhesive A gummed stamp made to be attached to mail.

Aerophilately The hobby of collecting airmail stamps, covers and other postal materials that are delivered by balloon, airplane, or other types of aircraft.

APS Abbreviation for American Philatelic Society.

Approvals Stamps sent by a dealer to a collector for examination. Approvals must either be bought or returned to the dealer within a certain time.

ATA Abbreviation for American Topical Association.

Autographed Cover A cover sheet or envelope signed by a person who had something to do with the event that is being commemorated—for example, the pilot of the plane that carried the material. Or an envelope addressed to a famous person, and signed by that person.

Block An attached group of stamps at least two stamps high and two stamps wide.

Booklet Pane A small sheet of stamps especially cut and printed to be sold in booklets.

Cachet (ka-shay') A design on a first day cover (envelope).

Cancellation A mark placed on a stamp to show that the stamp has been used.

Centering The position of the design on a postage stamp. On perfectly centered stamps the design is exactly in the middle of the stamp.

Coins Stamps issued in rolls for use in dispensers, affixers or vending machines.

Commemoratives Stamps that honor anniversaries, important people, or special events. Commemoratives are usually sold for only a certain length of time.

Condition The state of a stamp in regard to such things as centering, freshness, color, gum, and hinge marks.

Cover The envelope or wrapping in which a letter has been sent through the mail.

Definitives Regular issues of stamps—not commemoratives. Regular issues are usually sold over long periods of time.

Face Value The value of a stamp as printed on the stamp.

First Day Cover An envelope with a new stamp and a cancellation showing the date the stamp was first sold.

Gum The adhesive on the back of a stamp.

Hinges Small strips of paper gummed on one side and used by collectors to put their stamps in albums.

Imperforate Stamps Stamps printed in sheets without perforations or other means of separating them. Users had to cut the stamps apart with scissors or a knife. These stamps were usually early issues. They were printed before machines to make perforations had been invented.

Mint Sheet A sheet of unused stamps.

Mint Stamp A postage stamp that is in the same condition as when it was purchased from a post office.

Overprint A regular issue stamp that has some printing on top of the original design. Sometimes stamps are overprinted when there has been a change of government or when one country takes over another in a war.

Pane Part of an original large printed sheet of stamps. Sheets are cut into panes so that they are easier to handle and sell at post offices.

Pen Cancellation A cancellation made before modern post office equipment was used. Postmasters drew a line in ink across stamps, initialed them, or wrote their names on them.

Perforations Lines of small cuts or holes between two rows of stamps so that the stamps are easy to separate.

Philately (fi-lat'-el-ee) The collecting and study of postage stamps and other postal material.

Plate The metal base from which stamps are printed.

Plate Block (or number plate block) A block of stamps with the plate number or numbers in the margin.

Postal Stationery Envelopes, postal cards, aerogrammes, and wrappers with stamps printed or embossed on them.

Postmark A mark put on envelopes and other mailing pieces, showing the date and the name of the post office where it was mailed.

Postmaster Provisionals Stamps made by local postmasters. They were used before the government of the country began issuing stamps, or when the post office ran out of regular stamps.

Precancels Stamps with cancellations applied before the material was mailed.

Reissue An official reprinting of a stamp that was no longer being printed.

Revenue Stamps Stamps issued for use in collecting taxes on special papers or products. Not used for postage.

Selvage The paper around panes of stamps. Sometimes called the margin.

Se-tenant An attached pair, strip or block of stamps which differ in value, design or surcharge.

Surcharge An overprint which alters or restates the face value or denomination of the stamp to which it is applied.

Tagging Marking stamps with chemicals to be read by machines that sort mail and turn letters face-up for cancellation.

Thin Spot A thinning of the paper on the back of a stamp where a hinge was carelessly removed.

Tied On A stamp is "tied on" when the cancellation or postmark goes across the stamp to the envelope.

Topicals A group of stamps all with the same subject—space travel, for example.

Unused A stamp with or without original gum that has no cancellation or other sign of use.

Used A stamp that has been cancelled.

Want List A list of stamp numbers or philatelic items needed by a collector.

Watermark A design or pattern pressed into paper during its manufacture.



Overprint



Precancel



Perforate



Imperforate



Se-tenant



Coils



Surcharge

SPECIALTY COLLECTING

Specialty collecting hasn't anything to do with the subject matter of the stamps you collect. (Collecting stamps that have a particular subject is called **topical** collecting.) A specialty collection is a particular form of stamps, such as:

Blocks of Four A square block of four unused (mint), unseparated stamps, with two stamps above and two below. A block can come from anywhere on a sheet of stamps. This is the easiest block to collect.

Plate Blocks Usually plate blocks are four corner stamps with the printing plate number in the margin (selvage) of the sheet. On January 1, 1981, the Postal Service started a new plate number system. Each color plate first used in the production of a stamp is represented by a number 1 in the group of numbers in the margin. Whenever a plate is worn out and replaced during the printing process, a number 2 replaces the number 1. The color of the number is the same as the color of the plate it stands for.

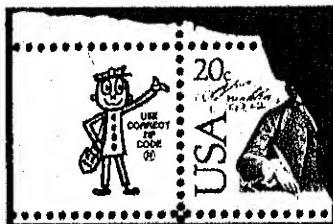
Copyright Blocks The U.S. Postal Service now copyrights all new stamp designs. The copyright C in a circle, followed by "United States Postal Service" or "USPS" and the year, appears in the margin of each sheet of stamps. The first copyright notice appeared January 6, 1978, in the margin of sheets of the Carl Sandburg stamp. Most copyrights are collected in blocks of four.

Booklet Panes Stamp booklets were first issued in 1898. Usually six or more of the same stamps are on a page, called a pane. Several pages of stamps are stapled in a cover. Most collections are of an entire pane.

Covers Covers (envelopes) stamped and postmarked with the date of the stamp's first day of issue are collected by a large number of people. On page 20 you'll find more information about first day covers and how to order them.

Souvenir Cards These 6" x 8" cards are issued as souvenirs of the philatelic (stamp collecting) events. They are distributed by the United States Postal Service, or the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Some are available cancelled. They cannot be used for postage. Of special interest to American stamp collectors is the annual souvenir card for National Stamp Collecting Month each October, first issued in 1981.

Mr. ZIP Blocks The Zoning Improvement Plan—better known as ZIP Code—helps the Postal Service handle and deliver mail quickly. A Mr. ZIP cartoon and slogan were first printed on the Sam Houston stamp of 1964. Mr. ZIP blocks have become quite popular with collectors.



STAMP CLUBS

The U.S. Postal Service encourages people to collect stamps and helps them with their hobby. One of the ways it does this is through the Benjamin Franklin Stamp Clubs. These are clubs that are sponsored by the U.S. Postal Service in schools and libraries across the country. They are for students in third through seventh grade.

Benjamin Franklin Stamp Clubs were first started in 1974. Since then more than 5 million students have been introduced to stamp collecting through these clubs. There are about 50,000 Ben Franklin Stamp Clubs now. Why are these clubs named after Benjamin Franklin? Because he was a leader in organizing our postal system. He was the first Postmaster General, in 1775.



1474

How does a Benjamin Franklin Stamp Club get started?

At the beginning of the school year, a person who works for the U.S. Postal Service in your area telephones schools and libraries to see if they are interested in having a stamp club. If the answer is yes, the person goes to the school or library to tell the teachers, librarians, and students about the Ben Franklin clubs. Sometimes a film about stamp collecting is shown. Usually a teacher, librarian, or parent agrees to be the club's advisor.

The U.S. Postal Service gives some materials to the Benjamin Franklin Stamp Clubs. Each of the members gets a free Treasury of Stamps album every year. This album has places for most of the new U.S. postage stamps that will be issued during the school year. Each member also gets a membership card. And every month during the school year, a newsletter called *Stamp Fun* is sent to the club. The advisor gets other free materials to help get the club started and keep it going. Films, slide-tape programs, and filmstrips are also available free from the Postal Service. The Postal Service representative will give other help to the club as it needs it.

What are some activities of the Ben Franklin Stamp Clubs?

If possible, the club meets every week. One of the most important activities, of course, is collecting, showing, and trading stamps. The club might arrange to have a stamp show. There might be a trip to visit a post office. Older stamp collectors in the community might visit the club, show their collections, and talk about them. Stamp dealers are often invited to meet with the clubs.

A new activity of the Benjamin Franklin Stamp Clubs is the Pen Pal Program. Clubs that want to write letters to other Ben Franklin clubs send their club names, addresses, and identification numbers to the Benjamin Franklin Stamp Club headquarters in Washington, D.C. A club can say in which states it wants Ben Franklin club pen pals. Then headquarters will send to the club addresses of pen pals in those states. Clubs write letters to their pen pal clubs about their activities. They also exchange "want lists" of stamps members need for their collections. Stamps can be traded or even bought this way.

STAMP CONDITION

The value of a stamp depends mostly on two things: how rare it is—that is, how few of them there are—and what condition it's in. You can get an idea of how rare a stamp is by the price listed for it in a catalog. But a stamp may sell for more or less than the catalog price, depending on its condition. A very rare stamp may be quite expensive even though it's in poor condition. For a while anyway, you'll probably be collecting stamps that aren't very expensive. But still, you should try to get stamps that are in the best condition you can.

Here are some of the things to look for when you are judging the condition of a stamp. Look at the front of the stamp. Are the colors bright? Or is the stamp dirty, stained, or faded? Is the design in the center of the paper, or is it a little crooked or off to the side? Are the edges in good condition? Or are some of the perforations missing? A stamp with a light cancellation mark is in better condition than one with heavy marks across it.

Now look at the back of the stamp. Is there a thin spot in the paper? It may have been caused by careless removal of paper or a hinge. Can you see marks from hinges? Stamps that have the original gum and have never been hinged are more valuable.

Stamp dealers put stamps into categories according to their condition. The worst is "Poor" or "Spacefiller." Most stamps you see will be in the categories "Superb," "Fine," and "Good." You can look at the examples on the next page to see the differences among stamps in these big categories.

Catalog prices listed in *The Postal Service Guide to U.S. Stamps* are for used and unused stamps in Fine condition that have been hinged. A stamp that has not been hinged and has excellent centering and color will cost more. A stamp in less than Fine condition that has been heavily cancelled will cost less than the catalog price.

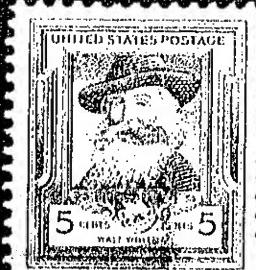
You may see a stamp listed as mint. A mint stamp is one that is in the same condition as it was when purchased from the post office. An unused stamp is one that has not been cancelled. It may not have any gum on it or it may be damaged in some way. Stamps in mint condition are usually more valuable than in unused condition.



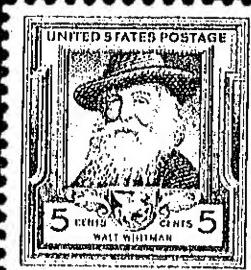
Light Cancel-Very Fine



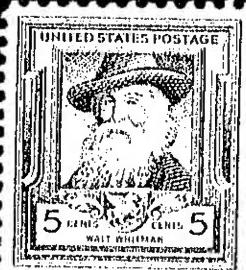
Medium Cancel-Fine



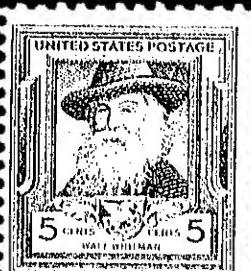
Heavy Cancel



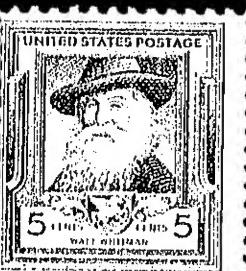
Superb



Very Fine



Fine



Good

ANSWER KEY FOR THE UNITED STATES MAIL

These four colorful stamps were issued in 1975 to celebrate the 200th birthday of the U.S. Postal Service. They show an early stagecoach and a modern trailer truck, old and new locomotives, an early mail plane and a jet, and a satellite for sending mailgrams. All have been carriers of the mail in this country during the past 200 years.



1572-1575

But, of course, people had been sending and receiving mail long before Ben Franklin became this country's first Postmaster General. About 4,000 years ago, a system of writing was first developed in countries around the Mediterranean Sea. The writing was cut into soft clay tablets. Then the tablets were baked and hardened. Sometimes the writing was a message to someone, and the tablets were carried by runners. The messengers' job became a little easier after the Egyptians began making a kind of paper out of the papyrus plant about 2400 B.C. Papyrus was easier to write on—and easier to carry. It was the most common writing material for 3,000 years.

The Romans developed some of the best methods of travel and correspondence in ancient times. Their mail system was so good that they had messenger stations every five to twelve miles. Sometimes the messengers rode one horse and had another to carry letter bags. Ships, too, carried mail across the Mediterranean to other parts of the Roman empire.

The Chinese emperor Kublai Khan built a postal system with 10,000 stations that were connected by good roads. The unusual thing about the Khan's system was that it could be used for private letters as well as for government mail. Most other systems of that time could be used only to carry mail sent by rulers, military commanders, and government officials. Of course, if you were an ordinary citizen, your letter went by slow-moving camel, while the Khan's went by swift horses. But at least the mail was delivered.

The Aztec and Inca Indians also had a delivery service that was used by the public. They didn't have horses, so runners carried the knotted cords that had the message in a kind of code.

In 1533 in England, King Henry VIII established regular postal routes and schedules. Private citizens could send letters by this service, but only if there was room in the bag after all the government mail was put in. And then the official mail went free. The private letters had to pay for the entire postal service. This made sending a letter very costly.

When colonists first settled in North America, there was no regular mail service. What little communication there was went between the new settlements and the countries the colonists had come from. That meant mail

had to be carried by ships across the Atlantic Ocean. Government mail was carried by warships. Private citizens sent letters and packages with captains of trading ships. In 1639, Fairbank's Tavern in Boston was named as the place in Massachusetts where the transatlantic mail was to be collected.

The need for transportation of mail grew as the colonies grew. Several colonial governments set up postal services in cooperation with the British government. But these early postal services were not dependable. Sometimes the mail ships sailed when they were supposed to. Sometimes they didn't. Riders and mail coaches faced many dangers and delays.

As new types of transportation were developed, the mail services used them. Steamboats carried mail on the big rivers. By the 1830s, railroads began carrying mail.

About this time, back in England, Rowland Hill had an idea about the postal service. He was an inventor and teacher. His idea was that letters should be charged for by how much they weighed, not by the distance they were carried. For two years he argued for the "penny post." A fee of one penny would take a half-ounce letter to any part of the kingdom. And the person who sent the letter would pay the penny, not the person who received it. Finally, Hill's program was made into law. He was appointed to be in charge of the new service. So the first gummed postage stamp came into being. It was the "Penny Black," called that because it cost a penny, and it was black in color.

Five years later, in 1845, the Congress of the United States set new postal rates that were much like those in England. And on July 1, 1847, there was the first issue of U.S. postage stamps. The brown 5-cent stamp had a picture of Benjamin Franklin. The black 10-cent stamp showed George Washington. These stamps were not perforated. This means they did not have lines of holes between the rows of stamps. The user had to cut them apart. Before the U.S. stamps were issued, postmasters in some places had their own stamps printed. These stamps are called "postmasters' provisionals," and they are very valuable.

As settlers moved westward across the United States, attempts were made to set up a regular mail service from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific coast. The most famous overland mail service was the Pony Express. Relay stations were set up every 15 miles. There the riders got fresh horses.

The first western Pony Express trip was in April, 1860. A rider left St. Joseph, Missouri, on April 3, and the mail arrived in San Francisco, California, eleven days later. This service lasted only a year and a half. When the telegraph line across the country was completed, the Pony Express stopped.



1154

After the Civil War there were several improvements in mail service. In large cities, letter carriers began delivering mail to people's homes and businesses. Before that, a person had to go to the post office to pick up mail. Also, letter boxes were placed on street corners so that people could easily mail letters.

A new fast railroad mail service carried mail by train even to small towns. The mail went from St. Louis, Missouri, to San Francisco in five days—half as long as it took the Pony Express. Even if the train didn't stop at a town, mail was

exchanged. A letter bag was handed by a postal worker to another postal worker on the train. And a letter bag was handed off the train to the postal worker standing beside the track. The train slowed, but didn't stop. Later, cranes were developed to help in the exchanging of mail with a moving train. The Fast Mail trains began in 1875 and continued in service until the United States entered World War I in 1917. These trains actually had post office cars.

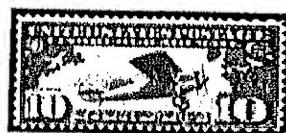
One of the problems the postal service has had is keeping costs down while continuing to give dependable, fast service. In an effort to keep the price of stamps down, the federal government's Bureau of Engraving and Printing began printing all stamps in 1893. Before that, stamps were printed by private companies.

During the 1890s rural free delivery of mail was started. Until that time, people who did not live in cities, but on farms and in the countryside, had to go to the post office for their mail. In those days, more than half the American people lived in these rural areas. At first the rural carriers delivered mail with a horse and wagon. But beginning in 1902, automobiles were used more and more.

For city mail service, many kinds of transportation have been used. There have been postal street cars, in which the mail was collected and sorted. Some big cities had pneumatic tube lines. Mail was moved by air pressure through the tubes between main post offices and smaller ones. In New York and San Francisco postal boats picked up foreign mail from mail steamers in the harbor and took it to a nearby railroad. And there have been a few postal subway systems, in which mail was moved through underground passages. But since the 1950s, trucks have been the most popular way to move mail on the ground.

After the automobile, the next great advance in carrying the mail was the airplane. During World War I the airplane proved that it could be a means of transportation. After the war, airmail service was started. The planes used for the first airmail service were military training planes called Curtiss Jennies. The 24-cent airmail stamp issued in 1918 shows a Curtiss Jenny in flight. This stamp became one of the most famous because of a mistake. One sheet of the stamps was printed with the plane flying upside down. A recent catalog priced one of these stamps (#C3a) at \$145,000!

The first airmail pilots had to have been daredevils. They often had engine trouble or ran into bad weather. The landing fields didn't have lights, and they had only road maps to fly by. Charles A. Lindbergh was one of those first airmail pilots. He flew a route between Springfield, Illinois, and St. Louis, Missouri. In 1927 he became famous for a private flight he made —the first nonstop flight from New York to Paris, made by a person flying alone. Other airmail-carrying craft shown on stamps include a dirigible, a "flying boat," propeller airplanes, and a jet. In 1977, airplanes became the standard way to move mail from city to city. Since then, it has not been necessary to buy a special airmail stamp to have your letter carried by this super-fast transportation. Today, machines, computers, and electronics help postal workers handle and carry mail.



C10

FIRST DAY COVERS

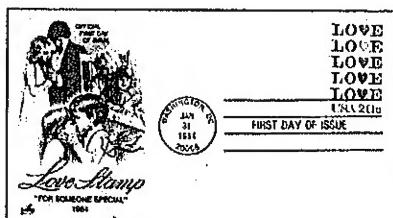
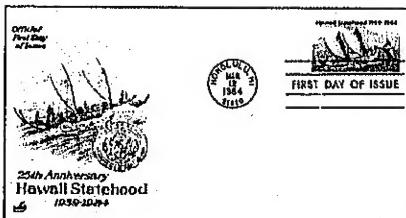
A first day cover is an envelope that has a new stamp cancelled with the date of the first day it was issued. For each new postal stamp or stationery issue, the Postal Service names one post office that is related in some way to the subject of the stamp. First day cover ceremonies are conducted at this post office to honor the subject of the stamp.

Here's how you can get a first day cover through the Postal Service. You will get faster service if you buy the stamp yourself, and then send it to the first day post office for cancellation. When a new stamp goes on sale at your post office (usually the next day after the first day of issue), you can buy one and put it on your own envelope. Put the address in the lower right-hand corner. Leave plenty of room for the stamp and the cancellation. You can use a peelable address label if you don't want the address to remain on the envelope. Put your first day envelope inside another envelope. Mail it to "Customer Affixed Envelopes" in care of the postmaster of the first day city. The post office will cancel your envelope and return it to you through the mail. You may do this for 30 days after the issue date of the stamp.

Or, you can send an envelope addressed to yourself, but without a stamp. Put the addressed envelope into another envelope. Address the outside envelope to the name of the stamp, in care of the postmaster of the first day city. You must also include payment for the stamp or stamps that are to be put on your envelope. Do not send cash. You may send a check, a bank draft, or a U.S. Postal money order. Make it out to the U.S. Postal Service.

Do not send requests more than 60 days prior to the issue date. Usually you will receive your cancelled cover within three weeks after the first day of issue. If you don't, write to the postmaster of the first day city. Tell how the envelope was addressed, what kind of design or cachet it had, and how many stamps were ordered. If you ever get a first day cover that is damaged, send it back to the postmaster. A new one will be sent to you.

The U.S. Postal Service tries to get the first day covers into the mail just as soon as possible. To do this, it sends a special team of workers to a first day post office. Their job is just to work on first day covers. Of course, they can't do all that work on one day. Often it takes weeks. When there's an especially popular stamp issue, it may take even longer than usual to get all the first day covers out. For example, for the 1982 State Birds and Flowers issue 12,070,206 first day covers were cancelled.



A Preview of

The next international philatelic exhibition to be held in the United States will be AMERIPEX '86 in, of course, 1986. These annual "world's fairs" of stamps come to America every ten years and provide a showcase for stamps and collections from all over the world.

To get a preview of the big show, we spoke with Les Winick, a well-known philatelic writer who is one of the original seven organizers of AMERIPEX. Mr. Winick writes a stamp column for the *Chicago Tribune* and is a contributing editor to *Linn's Stamp News*. A collector himself, Mr. Winick specializes in space and rocket issues and Icelandic stamps. He is the author of *Catalog of Soviet Space Stamps* and is currently working on a stamp identifier for The Washington Press.

For the record, Mr. Winick, where and when will AMERIPEX be held?

AMERIPEX '86 is scheduled to open on May 22, 1986, at the O'Hare Exposition Center (near O'Hare International Airport) and will run for 11 days through June 1. We're especially happy about the Exposition Center because its 350,000 square feet will let us put on the largest philatelic exhibition ever held in North America. All of the events will be on one level in a space the size of six football fields.

Who will be there?

We are expecting over 100,000 visitors to AMERIPEX from all over the world. At this point, 42 countries have appointed commissioners to develop exhibits at AMERIPEX, and many more are expected. A number of foreign postal administrations are planning to show here, and the U.S. Postal Service has extended invitations to 166 members of the Universal Postal Union to come and sell their stamps. Visitors will be able to purchase stamps from all over the world at face value in one place.

What can visitors expect to see?

We expect in excess of 60,000 pages to be shown in over 4,000 frames displaying stamps and philatelic material from every area of philately and every part of the world. We have invited the Queen of England, the Smithsonian Institution, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and the Prince of Monaco to exhibit from their collections. The USPS is planning a major exhibit on the history of the U.S. post, ranging from its origins to the modern era of telecommunications. Thurn and Taxis, a family that began scheduled postal service as early as the 15th century in Europe, will bring an exhibit on the origins of the mails, showing early postal artifacts. This will be the first time this exhibit has been shown outside of Europe. Fifty renowned philatelists have been invited to judge the philatelic competitions, and they have each

AMERIPEX '86

been invited to display stamps and covers from their private collections. Many of the most famous stamps in the world will be on exhibit at AMERIPEX. We are planning films, lectures and seminars on subjects as different as beginning stamp collecting, postal history and buying and selling at auctions. In fact, there should be so much activity at AMERIPEX that visitors won't know what to do first.

Q Tell us about some of your youth-oriented programs.

A Admission to AMERIPEX will be free to young people. We want to encourage young stamp collectors and hope to make AMERIPEX fun, comfortable and informative. The U.S. Postal Service is sponsoring exhibits by the Ben Franklin Stamp Clubs, exhibits that have been developed especially for AMERIPEX. These will include "hands-on" exhibits with computer terminals and souvenir printouts. Animated shows are planned, and free field trips for neighboring Ben Franklin Clubs will be scheduled. Special competitions for young stamp collectors will be held as well.

Q Will visitors be able to buy philatelic material at AMERIPEX?

A There will be two major selling areas for the USPS. One will be accessible to purchasers who wish to buy stamps and other philatelic items without having to enter the Exposition Center. There will also be a large indoor selling area for the same purpose. As I mentioned earlier, foreign postal administrations will be selling stamps from their countries at the exhibition. We will have a bourse of 300 stands where dealers will be offering old and new issues and where visitors can get their want lists filled. Of these, 24 "super-booths" have been sold to some of the largest stamp dealers in the world. In addition, a number of auctions will be held, all of them open to the public, where collectors can bid on rare and famous stamps. With so much gathered under one roof, AMERIPEX will offer an unparalleled opportunity for visitors to add different and interesting philatelic items to their collections.

Q Do you have any parting thoughts for our readers?

A AMERIPEX '86 will be the biggest philatelic show ever held in the U.S. All special events, auctions, films, lectures and exhibitions will be open to the public. We're enthusiastic about the response we've had so far and can assure visitors that there will be something of interest from every area of stamp collecting. I want to invite everyone to AMERIPEX in Chicago in 1986.

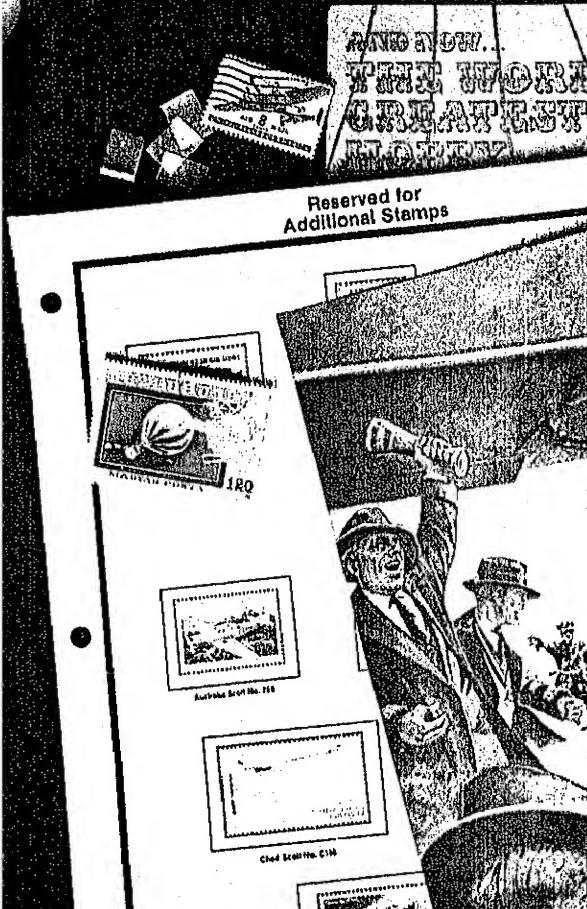
STAMP COLLECTING KITS

Discover the "Hobby of a Lifetime"

Stamp collecting! It's educational, exciting, challenging...and once you've heard about it and you're eager to join the ranks of 2 million Americans who enjoy the world's most popular hobby. But where are the U.S. Postal Service Stamp Collecting Kits? Available at your local post office, these Kits offer an inexpensive introduction.

Every USPS Kit contains four essential tools: a color booklet with background information and display space for each of the 12 genuine, colorful stamps ready for mounting; a convenient folder with three clear plastic sleeves and metal hinges; and *Introduction to Stamp Collecting*.

Your local post office may have additional Stamp Collecting Kits shown here. Be sure to ask. Since availability may vary, check more than one post office.

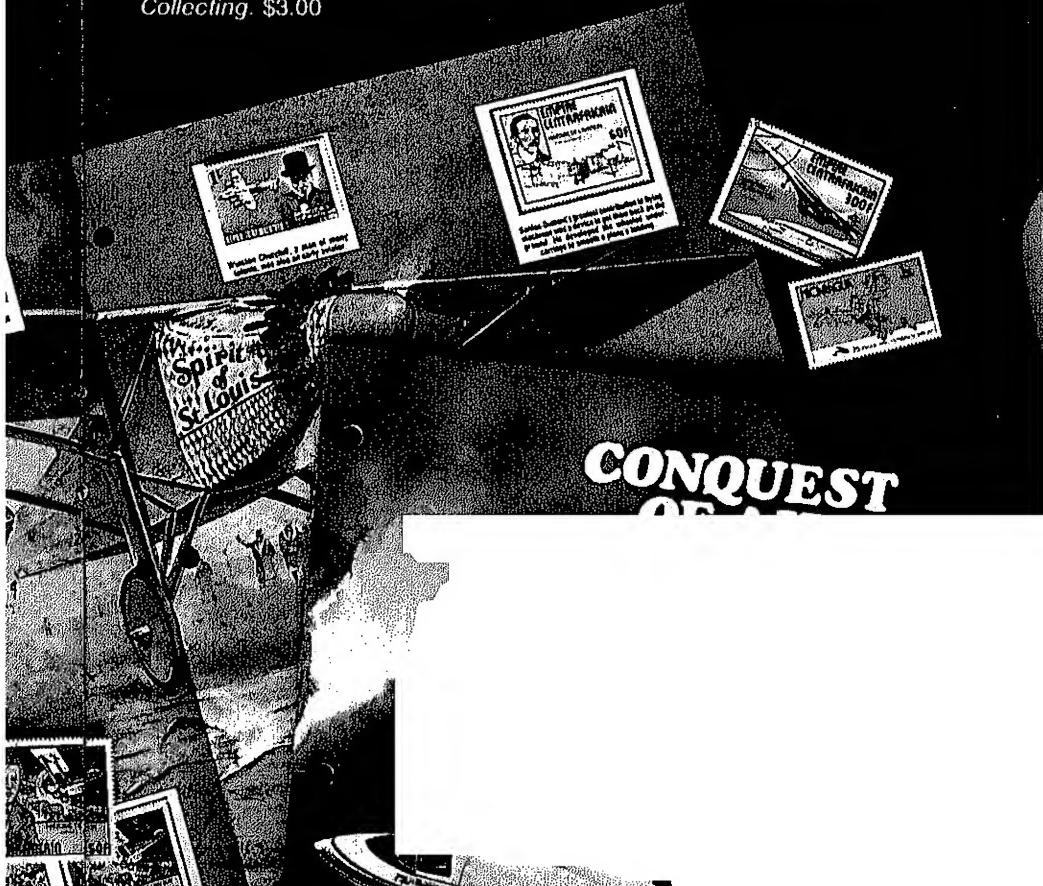




USPS Stamp Collecting Kits to be issued during the next few months include these interesting topics: Soccer, Costumes, Automobiles and The 1984 Summer Games.

And in early 1985...the 1985 U.S. Commemorative Stamp Collecting Kit will be available at your local post office with information on such 1985 issues as the Duck Decoys block of four and stamps honoring our Korean War Veterans and World War I Veterans.

1984 United States Commemorative Stamp Collecting Kit is now available at your local post office. It contains 7 U.S. commemorative stamps comprising 4 issues (Alaska, Winter Olympics, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and Carter G. Woodson), a full-color album describing all 1984 U.S. commemoratives, stamp mounts and the booklet *Introduction to Stamp Collecting*. \$3.00



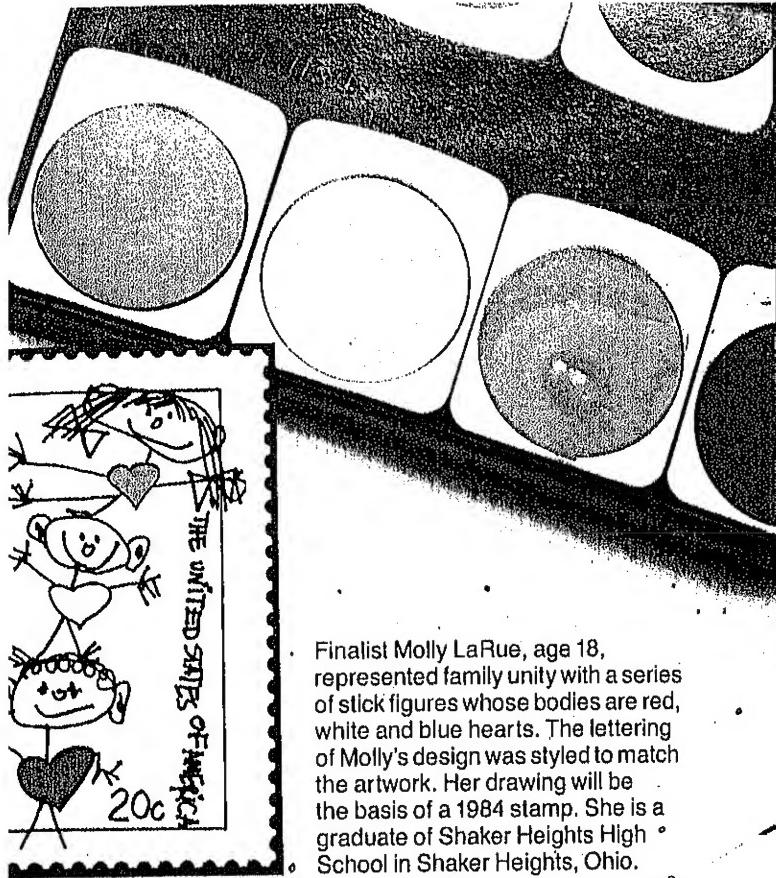
Art Students Design Stamps

If you were to design a postage stamp, what would it look like? Last year thousands of art students around the country were invited to try their hands at designing stamps. The occasion was a national competition sponsored by the U.S. Postal Service. Two student-inspired designs would be chosen to appear on 1984 postage stamps. The response was overwhelming. More than half a million elementary and high school art students submitted drawings to the project.

The National Art Education Association did the preliminary judging. Stressing simplicity of design and skill of execution, members of the association narrowed the field to 2,000 entries. These were turned over to the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee which submitted 85 drawings to Postmaster General William F. Bolger for final consideration. He chose 33 honorable mentions, 8 semifinalists and 2 finalists whose work would actually appear on 1984 stamps.

The two finalists and eight semifinalists were invited to a ceremony at postal headquarters in Washington, D.C., where their artwork was unveiled. In congratulating the students, Bolger remarked, "The greatest resource this nation has is its young people, and it is important to nourish their spirits with encouragement of their artistic ability." All the students received a certificate of achievement, a philatelic gift and an enlargement of their design for display in their local post offices and schools.





Finalist Molly LaRue, age 18, represented family unity with a series of slick figures whose bodies are red, white and blue hearts. The lettering of Molly's design was styled to match the artwork. Her drawing will be the basis of a 1984 stamp. She is a graduate of Shaker Heights High School in Shaker Heights, Ohio.



Finalist Danny LaBoccetta, age 8, created a cheerful Santa Claus with a sack of toys. Danny's drawing will appear on the 1984 contemporary issue.

The Semi-Finalists



Heather Gaucher, 11, from Spencer, Massachusetts, and a student at the Maple Street School, drew a bold, colorful message that says, "Letters Brighten Your Day."



Tommy Neyhard, 8, of Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, and a second grade student in the Bloomsburg Memorial Elementary School, drew a colorful steamboat.



Lori Vassil, 18, who graduated in June from Central High School in Scranton, Pennsylvania, designed a love stamp showing an envelope with bright hearts emerging from it. Lori plans to be a nurse.



Jodie Booth, 13, of Cainsville, Missouri, and the daughter of a teacher of English in her school, the Cainsville R1 School, drew a black child and a white child with arms entwined and the moving message "Friends Are Special."



Robin Mallik, 18, who graduated in June from the Cresskill High School in Cresskill, New Jersey, featured a bright-eyed raccoon framed by holly leaves. She hopes to pursue an art career.



Shane Hillard, 6, was in kindergarten last year when he drew two bright red stick figures with the title "Love." Shane lives in Oquawka, Illinois, and attends Oquawka Elementary School.



Amber Evans, 17, and a senior this year at Upper Arlington High School in Columbus, Ohio, created an imaginary forest scene, with tree trunks reflected in a lake showing how they appeared before they were destroyed by fire.



Eddie Obuchowski, 9, a student at the Woodland Avenue School in Morristown, New Jersey, designed an imaginary view of the firmament. In addition to a fascination with space travel, he loves sports of all kinds.

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COMMEMORATIVE MINT SETS

Value for All Collectors

service Commemorative Mint Sets are more than just a collection of commemorative stamps issued in one year—the sets are fun, and valuable. Each year's complete set of commemoratives comes in custom sleeves or individual plastic mounts to help preserve and display the stamps. The attractive folders feature concise background on the commemoration, the stamp artist, and other philatelic information which the new collector in an absorbing, often lifelong, avocation. Enthusiasts also value the Sets as adjuncts to their own collections. Commemorative Mint Sets are available at your local post office.

BRIDGE

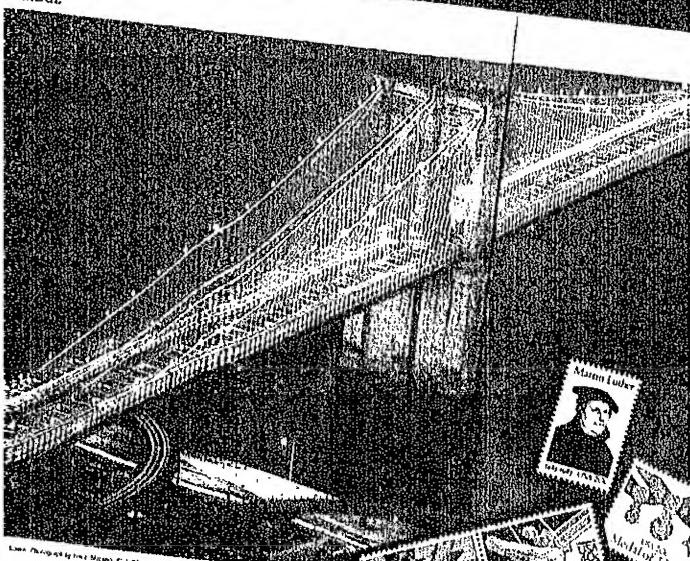


Photo: Photopak by James M. Murray (C-14)

as the product of a
team effort, and
fully deserved the
prize for completing the

bridge a century ago. The
original bridge was built
in 1883, and replaced
by a second New
Bridge by 1909. This
last by 1914, the cables
had been replaced
by 1927. The granite stone
and timber of the earlier
bridge were used in the

resembling an inverted umbrella, though provided a
solid base for the towers. The two towers themselves, like the
rest of the Brooklyn Bridge, is still one of the most impressive
works of civil engineering in the Western Hemisphere.

Designer: Howard Da Silva
Issued: Brooklyn, New York
May 17





1983 Commemorative Mint Set—The 1983 set consists of 26 issues totalling 47 separate stamps, including the 16 stamps issued during 1983 to commemorate the 1984 Olympic Games. Also notable in 1983: joint issues with Sweden and the Federal Republic of Germany, the Treaty of Paris which represents the last stamp in the Bicentennial Issues, and new issues on the Black Heritage and American Sports series. \$12.50.

1984 Commemorative Mint Set—Consists of commemorative stamps comprising all 1984 issues, including blocks of four for the Winter Olympics, Orchids, the Summer Olympics, and Dogs. Also included are the Christmas stamps. \$10.25.



Philatelic Societies

American Air Mail Society

102 Arbor Rd.
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077-3859

Specializes in aerophilately, and periodically presents the Conrath Award to a member of the society in the name of Waller Conrath, one of its founders.

American First Day Cover Society

Mrs. Monte Eiserman
Membership Chairman
14359 Chadbourne
Houston, TX 77079-6611

American Philatelic Society

Box 8000
State College, PA 16803-8000

A non-profit organization furnishing a full complement of services and resources for stamp collectors. Membership offers the following services: research library; exporting; estate advisory; translation; a clearinghouse for theft information; speaker's bureau; and a monthly 96-page magazine, *The American Philatelist*, sent to over 50,000 members.

American Society for Philatelic Pages and Panels

1138 Princeton Drive
Richardson, TX 75081-3615

American Stamp Dealer's Association

5 Dakota Dr
Suite 102
Lake Success, NY 11042-1109

Association of dealers engaged in every facet of philately, with eleven regional chapters nation wide. Sponsors national and local shows, seminars for member and non-member dealers, credit information service, monthly newsletter and ASDA membership directory.

American Topical Association

P.O. Box 630
Johnstown, PA 15907-0630

A service organization concentrating on the specialty of topical collecting. Offers handbooks on specific topics; an exhibition award; *Topical Time*, a bi-monthly publication dealing with topical interest areas; a slide and film loan service; information, translation, biography and sales services; and an heirs' estate service.

Black American Philatelic Society

% Walt Robinson
9101 Taylor Street
Landover, MD 20785-2554

For collectors interested in the study of black Americans on postage stamps.

Bureau Issues Association

4630 Greylock Street
Boulder, CO 80301-4207

Collectors Club, Inc.

22 East 35th Street
New York, NY 10016-3806

Regular services include library and reading rooms, a publication and lectures on philatelic subjects. The group also honors a great American collector annually and actively supports national and international exhibitions.

Council Of Philatelic Organizations

% COPO Secretary
Post Office Box COPO
State College, PA 16803-8340

A non-profit organization comprised of more than 400 national, regional and local stamp clubs, organizations, societies and philatelic business firms. The objective of COPO is to promote and encourage the hobby of stamp collecting. Membership is open only to organizations. COPO uses a variety of methods to promote stamp collecting including an on-going publicity campaign, a quarterly newsletter and joint sponsorship (with the USPS) of National Stamp Collecting Month.

Errors, Freaks and Oddities Collectors Club

Box 1125
Fallis Church, VA 22041-0125

Includes an exhibit critique service.

Junior Philatelists of America

P.O. Box 15329
San Antonio, TX 78212-8529

JPA provides a number of services including a bi-monthly newsletter, *The Philatelic Observer*; auction exchange; pen pal program; stamp identification services and study groups. JPA is run by and for stamp collectors 21 and under.

Maximum Card Study Club

Bill Kelleher
Box 375
Bedford, MA 01730-0375

Mobile Post Office Society

5030 Aspen Drive
Omaha, NE 68157-2267

A non-profit organization concentrating on transit markings and the history of postal transit routes. The Society is engaged in documenting and recording transit postal history by publishing books, catalogs and monographs, as well as a semi-monthly journal.

Modern Postal History Association

% Psychology Department
Pace University
Pleasantville, NY 10570-2799

National Association of Precancel Collectors

5121 Park Blvd.
Wildwood, NJ 08260-1454

The Perlins Club

2163 Cumbray Place
El Cajon, CA 92020-1005

Send SASE for information.

Philatelic Foundation

270 Madison Ave
New York, NY 10016-0656

A non-profit organization known for its excellent exportation service. The Foundation's broad resources, including extensive reference collections, 5,000-volume library and Expert Committee, provide collectors with comprehensive consumer protection. It also publishes educational information. Slide and cassette programs are available on such subjects as the Pony Express, Provisionals, Confederate Postal History and special programs for beginning collectors.

Plate Block Collector Club

Box 937
Homestead, FL 33090-0937

Plate Number Society

9600 Colesville Rd.
Silver Spring, MD 20901-3144

Postal History Society

Box 20
Bayside, NY 11361-0020

Post Mark Collectors Club

Wilma Hinrichs
4200 SE. Indiana Rd.
Des Moines, IA 50320-1555

Precancel Stamp Society

David A. Coates, Secretary
2500 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. #829
Washington, D.C. 20007-1561

Souvenir Card Collectors Society

P.O. Box 4155
Tulsa, OK 74159-4155

United Postal Stationery Society

Mrs. J. Thomas
Box 48
Redlands, CA 92373-0601

The United States Possessions

Philatelic Society
141 Lyford Drive
Tiburon, CA 94202-1652

The Universal Ship Cancellation Society

P.O. Box 13
New Britain, CT 06050-0013
Specializing in naval ship cancellations.

Catalogs**Brookman Price List of U.S. Stamps**

91 South 9th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402-3295

Catalogue of United States Souvenir Cards

The Washington Press
2 Vreeland Rd.
Florham Park, NJ 07932-1587

First Day Cover Catalogue (U.S.-U.N.)

The Washington Press
2 Vreeland Rd.
Florham Park, NJ 07932-1587

Perkins of the World

9801 Dewey Drive
Garden Grove, CA 92641-1344

Souvenir Pages Price List

(Please send self-addressed stamped envelope to receive current listings.)

Charles D. Simmons
P.O. Box 6238
Buena Park, CA 90622-6238

Noble Official Catalog of United States Bureau Precancels, 84th Edition

P.O. Box 931
Winter Park, FL 32789-0931

Stamps of the World 1982 Catalogue

Stanley Gibbons Publications. Available through dealers only. All the stamps of the world from 1840 to date. Over 1,900 pages feature more than 200,000 stamps (47,900 illustrations) from over 200 issuing countries.

Commemorative Panel Price List

(Please send self-addressed stamped envelope to receive current listings.)

Frank Riolo
P.O. Box 1540
Delray Beach, FL 33447-1540

Fleetwoods Standard First Day Cover Catalog

Unicover Corporation
Cheyenne, WY 82008-0001

Harris Illustrated Postage Stamp Catalog

H.E. Harris & Co., Inc.
Boston, MA 02117-0810

Minkus New World Wide Stamp Catalogue

116 West 32nd Street
New York, NY 10001-3284

American Air Mail Catalogue

American Air Mail Society
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077-3859

Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue

911 South Vandemark Road
Sidney, OH 45367-8959

U.S. Postal Card Catalog, 1980

Box 48
Redlands, CA 92373-0601

Magazines and Newspapers**Linn's Stamp News**

Box 29
Sidney, OH 45365-0029

Makel's Weekly Stamp News

Box 1660
Portland, ME 04104-1660

Minkus Stamp Journal

41 West 25th Street
New York, NY 10010-2021

Scott's Monthly Stamp Journal

911 South Vandemark Road
Sidney, OH 45367-8959

Stamps

153 Waverly Place
New York, NY 10014-3849

Stamp Collector

Box 10
Albany, OR 97321-0006

Stamp Review

1839 Palmer Ave.
Larchmont, NY 10538-3099

PHILATELIC CENTERS

In addition to the more than 15,000 postal facilities authorized to sell philatelic products, the U.S. Postal Service also maintains more than 343 Philatelic Centers located in major population centers throughout the country.

These Philatelic Centers have been developed to serve stamp collectors and make it convenient for them to acquire an extensive range of all current postage stamps, postal stationery and philatelic products issued by the Postal Service.

All Centers listed here are located at the Main Post Office unless otherwise indicated.

Alabama	300 Long Beach Blvd.	4245 West Lane	District of Columbia
351 North 24th Street Birmingham, AL 35203	Long Beach, CA 90801	Sacramento, CA 95208	Harriet Tubman Philatelic Center
101 Holmes N.W. Huntsville, AL 35804	300 N. Los Angeles St. Los Angeles, CA 90012	15701 Sherman Way Van Nuys, CA 91408	North Capitol Street and Massachusetts Avenue Washington, DC 20066
250 St. Joseph Mobile, AL 36601	Terminal Annex 900 N. Alameda Los Angeles, CA 90052	396 South California St. West Covina, CA 91780	Headsville Station National Museum of American History Smithsonian Institution Washington, DC 20560
1313 22nd Avenue Tuscaloosa, AL 35401	Village Station 11000 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90024	201 E. Pikes Peak Colorado Springs, CO 80901	L'Enfant Plaza Philatelic Center U.S. Postal Service Headquarters
Alaska	El Viejo Station	1823 Stout Street	475 L'Enfant Plaza
Downtown Station 3rd & C Street	1125 1st Street Modesto, CA 95354	Denver, CO 80202	West, SW
Anchorage, AK 99510	Civic Center Annex 201 13th Street Fairbanks, AK 99708	241 N. 4th St. Grand Junction, CO 81501	Washington, DC 20260
Arizona	211 Brooks	5733 South Prince Street	National Visitors Center
Osborn Station 3905 North 7th Avenue	Oceanside, CA 92054	Littleton, CO 80120	Union Station
Phoenix, AZ 85013	281 E. Colorado Blvd. Pasadena, CA 91109	421 N. Main Street Pueblo, CO 81003	50 Massachusetts Ave., N.E.
1501 South Cherrybell Tucson, AZ 85726	1647 Yuba St. Redding, CA 96001	Connecticut	Washington, DC 20002
Arkansas	1201 North Catalina	141 West Street	Pavilion Postique Old Post Office
30 South 6th Street Fort Smith, AR 72901	Redondo Beach, CA 90277	Hartford, CT 06101	Building
310 East Street Jonesboro, AR 72401	Downtown Station 3890 Orange St. Riverside, CA 92501	11 Silver Street Middletown, CT 06457	1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
600 West Capitol Little Rock, AR 72201	2000 Royal Oaks Drive Sacramento, CA 95813	141 Church Street New Haven, CT 06510	Washington, DC 20004
California	Base Line Station	27 Masonic Street	Florida
200 Allston Way Berkeley, CA 94504	1164 North E Street San Bernardino, CA 92410	New London, CT 06320	824 Manatee Ave. West Bradenton, FL 33506
Downtown Station 135 East Olive Street	2535 Midway Drive San Diego, CA 92199	421 Atlantic Street Stamford, CT 06904	100 South Belcher Road Clearwater, FL 33515
Burbank, CA 91502	7th and Mission Sts. San Francisco, CA 94101	Stratford Branch 3100 Main Street Stratford, CT 06497	1900 West Oakland Park Boulevard
315 G. Street Davis, CA 95616	1750 Meridian Drive San Jose, CA 95101	135 Grand Street Waterbury, CT 06701	Fort Lauderdale, FL 33310
8111 East Firestone Downey, CA 90241	Simms Station 41 Simms Street San Rafael, CA 94901	Delaware	401 S.E. 1st Avenue Gainesville, FL 32601
Culver Station 3901 Walnut Drive Eureka, CA 95501	Spurgeon Station 615 North Bush Santa Ana, CA 92701	55 The Plaza Dover, DE 19901	1801 Polk Street Hollywood, FL 33022
1900 E Street Fresno, CA 93706	836 Anacada Street Santa Barbara, CA 93102	Federal Station 110 E. Main St. Newark, DE 19711	1110 Kings Road Jacksonville, FL 32203
313 E. Broadway Glendale, CA 91209		11th and Market Streets Wilmington, DE 19850	210 North Missouri Ave. Lakeland, FL 33802
Hillcrest Station 303 E. Hillcrest Inglewood, CA 90311			118 North Bay Drive Largo, FL 33540
			2200 NW 72nd Avenue Miami, FL 33101

1200 Goodlette Rd. North Naples, FL 33940	2350 Madison Ave. Granite City, IL 62040	Louisiana	Michigan
400 Southwest First Ave. Ocala, FL 32678	2000 McDonough St. Joliet, IL 60436	1724 Bank Drive Alexandria, LA 71301	2075 W. Stadium Blvd Ann Arbor, MI 48106
46 East Robinson Street Orlando, FL 32801	901 Lake Street Oak Park, IL 60301	1715 Odem St. Alexandria, LA 71301	26200 Ford Road Dearborn Heights, MI 48127
1400 West Jordan Street Pensacola, FL 32501	123 Indianwood Park Forest, IL 60466	750 Florida Street Baton Rouge, LA 70821	1401 West Fort Street Detroit, MI 48233
3135 First Avenue North Saint Petersburg, FL 33730	5225 Harrison Ave. Rockford, IL 61125	1105 Moss Street Lafayette, LA 70501	250 East Boulevard Dr. Flint, MI 48502
Open Air Station 76 4th St. N. Saint Petersburg, FL 33701	211-19th Street Rock Island, IL 61201	3301 17th Street Metairie, LA 70004	225 Michigan Avenue Grand Rapids, MI 49501
1661 Ringland Blvd. Sarasota, FL 33578	Schaumburg Station 450 W. Roselle Road Roselle, IL 60194	501 Sterlington Road Monroe, LA 71201	200 South Oscego Jackson, MI 49201
5201 Spruce Street Tampa, FL 33630	Edison Square Station 1520 Washington Waukegan, IL 60085	701 Loyola Avenue New Orleans, LA 70113	Downtown Station 315 West Allegan Lansing, MI 48901
801 Clematis Street West Palm Beach, FL 33401	Indiana	Vieux Carre Station 1022 Iberville Street New Orleans, LA 70112	1300 Military Street Port Huron, MI 48060
Georgia	North Park Branch 44923 1st Avenue Evansville, IN 47710	2400 Texas Avenue Shreveport, LA 71102	30550 Gratiot Street Roseville, MI 48066
115 Hancock Avenue Athens, GA 30601	Fort Wayne Postal Facility	40 Western Avenue Augusta, ME 04330	200 West 2nd Street Royal Oak, MI 48068
Downtown Station 101 Marietta Street Atlanta, GA 30301	1501 S. Clinton Street Fort Wayne, IN 46802	202 Harlow Street Bangor, ME 04401	1233 South Washington Saginaw, MI 48605
Perimeter Branch 4400 Ashford-Dunwoody Road Atlanta, GA 30346	5530 SohI Street Hammond, IN 46320	125 Forest Avenue Portland, ME 04101	Minnesota 2800 West Michigan Duluth, MN 55806
Downtown Station 3916 Milgen Road Columbus, GA 31908	125 West South Street Indianapolis, IN 46206	Maryland	1st and Marquette Ave. Minneapolis, MN 55401
364 Green Street Gainesville, GA 30501	2719 South Webster Kokomo, IN 46901	900 E. Fayette Street Baltimore, MD 21233	Downtown Station 102 S. Broadway Rochester, MN 55904
451 College Street Macon, GA 31201	3450 State Road 26, E Lafayette, IN 47901	6411 Baltimore Avenue Riverdale, MD 20840	The Pioneer Postal Emporium
2 North Farm Street Savannah, GA 31401	424 South Michigan South Bend, IN 46624	U.S. Route 50 and Naylor Road Salisbury, MD 21801	133 Endicott Arcade St. Paul, MN 55101
Hawaii	30 N. 7th Street Terre Haute, IN 47808	Massachusetts	Mississippi
3600 Aolele Street Honolulu, HI 96819	Iowa	Post Office and Courthouse Bldg. Boston, MA 02109	2421-13th Street Gulfport, MS 39501
Idaho	615 6th Avenue Cedar Rapids, IA 52401	120 Commercial Street Brockton, MA 02401	245 East Capitol Jackson, MS 32905
770 South 13th Street Boise, ID 83708	1165 Second Avenue Des Moines, IA 50318	7 Bedford Street Burlington, MA 01603	500 West Main Street Tupelo, MS 38801
Illinois	320 6th Street Sioux City, IA 51101	330 Coclitate Road Framingham, MA 01701	Missouri
809 West Euclid Avenue Arlington Heights, IL 60004	Kansas	385 Main Street Hyannis, MA 02601	315 Pershing Road Kansas City, MO 64108
Moraine Valley Station 7401 100th Place Bridgeview, IL 60455	1021 Pacific Kansas City, KS 66110	Post Office Square Lowell, MA 01853	Northwest Plaza Station 500 Northwest Plaza St. Ann, MO 63074
1301 East Main Street Carbondale, IL 62901	6029 Broadmoor Shawnee Mission, KS 66202	212 Fenn Street Pittsfield, MA 01201	8th and Edmond St. Joseph, MO 64501
433 West Van Buren St. Chicago, IL 60607	434 Kansas Avenue Topeka, KS 66603	Long Pond Road Plymouth, MA 02360	Clayton Branch
Loop Station 211 South Clark Street Chicago, IL 60604	Downtown Station	Quincy Branch 47 Washington Street Quincy, MA 02169	7750 Maryland St. Louis, MO 63105
1000 East Oakton Des Plaines, IL 60018	401 North Market Wichita, KS 67202	2 Margin Street Salem, MA 01970	H.S. Jewel Station 870 Boonville Ave. Springfield, MO 65801
1101 Davis St. Evanston, IL 60204	Kentucky	74 Elm Street West Springfield, MA 01089	Montana
	1088 Nadine Blvd. Lexington, KY 40511	462 Washington St. Woburn, MA 01888	841 South 26th Billings, MT 59101
	St. Mathews Station 4600 Shelbyville Road Louisville, KY 40207	4 East Central Street Worcester, MA 01603	Nebraska
			204 W. South Front St. Grand Island, NE 68801
			700 R Street Lincoln, NE 68501

300 East Third Street North Platte, NE 69101	Bronx General Post Office 149th Street & Grand Concourse Bronx, NY 10451	F.D.R. Station 909 Third Avenue New York, NY 10022	Fountain Square Station 5th and Walnut Street Cincinnati, OH 45202
1124 Pacific Omaha, NE 68108	Parkchester Station 1449 West Avenue Bronx, NY 10462	Grand Central Station 45th St. & Lexington Ave. New York, NY 10017	301 W. Prospect Ave. Cleveland, OH 44101
Nevada	Riverdale Station 5951 Riverdale Avenue Bronx, NY 10471	Madison Square Station 149 East 23rd Street New York, NY 10010	850 Twin Rivers Drive Columbus, OH 43216
1001 Circus Circus Dr. Las Vegas, NV 89114	Throggs Neck Station 3630 East Tremont Ave. Bronx, NY 10465	New York General Post Office 33rd and 8th Avenue New York, NY 10001	1111 East 5th Street Dayton, OH 45401
200 Vassar Street Reno, NV 89510	Wakefield Station 4165 White Plains Rd. Bronx, NY 10466	Rockefeller Center Station 610 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10020	200 North Diamond St. Mansfield, OH 44901
New Hampshire	Bayridge Station 5501 7th Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11220	Times Square Station 340 West 42nd Street New York, NY 10036	200 North 4th Street Steubenville, OH 43952
South Main Street Hanover, NH 03755	Brooklyn General Post Office 271 Cadman Plaza East Brooklyn, NY 11201	Franklin & S. Main Sts. Pearl River, NY 10965	435 S. St. Clair Street Toledo, OH 43601
955 Goffs Falls Road Manchester, NH 03103	Greenpoint Station 66 Meserole Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11222	55 Mansion Street Poughkeepsie, NY 12601	99 South Walnut Street Youngstown, OH 44503
80 Daniel Street Portsmouth, NH 03801	Homecrest Station 2002 Avenue U Brooklyn, NY 11229	1335 Jefferson Road Rochester, NY 14692	Oklahoma
New Jersey	Kensington Station 421 McDonald Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11218	Rockville Centre Main Post Office 250 Merrick Road Rockville Centre, NY 11570	101 East First Edmond, OK 73034
1701 Pacific Avenue Atlantic City, NJ 08401	1200 William Street Buffalo, NY 14240	25 Route 11 Smithtown, NY 11787	115 West Broadway Enid, OK 73701
3 Miln Street Cranford, NJ 07016	Rte. 9 Clifton Park, NY 12065	550 Manor Road Staten Island, NY 10314	102 South 5th Lawton, OK 73501
Belimawr Branch Haag Ave. & Benigno Boulevard Gloucester, NJ 08031	Downtown Station 255 Clemens Ave. Elmira, NY 14901	New Springville Station 2843 Richmond Ave. Staten Island, NY 10314	525 West Okmulgee Muskogee, OK 74401
Route 35 & Hazlet Ave. Hazlet, NJ 07730	1836 Mott Avenue Far Rockaway, NY 11691	5640 East Taft Road Syracuse, NY 13220	129 West Gray Norman, OK 73069
150 Ridgedale Morristown, NJ 07960	41-65 Main Street Flushing, NY 11351	10 Broad Street Utica, NY 13503	76320 SW 5th Oklahoma City, OK 73125
Federal Square Newark, NJ 07102	Ridgewood Station 869 Cypress Avenue Flushing, NY 11385	143 Grand Street White Plains, NY 10602	333 West 4th Tulsa, OK 74101
86 Bayard Street New Brunswick, NJ 08901	Old Glenham Road Glenham, NY 12527	78-81 Main Street Yonkers, NY 10701	12 South 5th Yukon, OK 73099
194 Ward Street Paterson, NJ 07510	16 Hudson Avenue Glens Falls, NY 12801	North Carolina West Asheville Station 1300 Patton Avenue Asheville, NC 28806	Oregon
171 Broad Street Red Bank, NJ 07701	185 West John Street Hicksville, NY 11802	Eastway Station 3065 Eastway Drive Charlotte, NC 28205	520 Willamette Street Eugene, OR 97401
757 Broad Ave. Ridgefield, NJ 07657	88-40 164th Street Jamaica, NY 11431	301 Green Street Fayetteville, NC 28302	751 N.W. Hoyt Portland, OR 97208
76 Huyler Street South Hackensack, NJ 07606	Ansonia Station 1980 Broadway New York, NY 10023	310 New Bern Avenue Raleigh, NC 27611	Pennsylvania
680 Highway #130 Trenton, NJ 08650	Bowling Green Station 25 Broadway New York, NY 10004	North Dakota 657 2nd Avenue North Fargo, ND 58102	442-456 Hamilton St. Allentown, PA 18101
155 Clinton Road West Caldwell, NJ 07006	Church Street Station 90 Church Street New York, NY 10007	Ohio 678 Wolf Ledges Pkwy. Akron, OH 44309	535 Wood St. Bethlehem, PA 18016
41 Greenwood Avenue Wykoff, NJ 07481	Empire State Station 350 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10001	2650 N. Cleveland Ave. Canton, OH 44701	115 Boylston Street Bradford, PA 16701
New Mexico			Beaver Drive Industrial Park Dubois, PA 15801
Main Post Office 1135 Broadway NE Albuquerque, NM 87101			Griawold Plaza Erie, PA 16501
200 E. Las Cruces Ave. Las Cruces, NM 88001			238 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Greensburg, PA 15601
New York			10th and Markets Sts. Harrisburg, PA 17105
General Mail Facility 30 Old Karner Road Albany, NY 12212			West Avenue and Cedar Street Jenkintown, PA 19046
Empire State Plaza Station Albany, NY 12220			111 Franklin Street Johnstown, PA 15901
115 Henry Street Binghampton, NY 13902			Downtown Station 48-50 W. Chestnut St. Lancaster, PA 17603

980 Wheeler Way Langhorne, PA 19047	Puerto Rico San Juan General Post Office Roosevelt Avenue San Juan, PR 00936	251 West Lancaster Avenue Fort Worth, TX 76101	600 Granby Street Norfolk, VA 23501
Lehigh Valley Branch Airport Rd. & Route 22 Lehigh Valley, PA 18001	Plaza Las Americas Station San Juan, PR 00938	408 Main Street Hereford, TX 79045	Thomas Corner Station 6274 East Virginia Beach Blvd. Norfolk, VA 23502
Monroeville Mall Branch 4039 Northern Pike Monroeville, PA 15146	Rhode Island 24 Corliss Street Providence, RI 02904	401 Franklin Avenue Houston, TX 77201	1801 Brook Road Richmond, VA 23232
1 W. Washington Street Kennedy Square New Castle, PA 16101	South Carolina 4290 Datey Avenue Charleston, SC 29402	411 "L" Avenue Lubbock, TX 79408	419 Rutherford Ave. NE Roanoke, VA 24022
28 East Airy Street Norristown, PA 19401	1601 Assembly Street Columbia, SC 29201	601 E. Pecan McAllen, TX 78501	1430 North Augusta Staunton, VA 24401
30th and Market Sts. Philadelphia, PA 19104	600 West Washington Greenville, SC 29602	100 East Wall Midland, TX 79702	London Bridge Station 550 1st Colonial Road Virginia Beach, VA 23454
B. Free Franklin Station 316 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19106	South Dakota 500 East Boulevard Rapid City, SD 57701	10410 Perrin Beitel Road San Antonio, TX 78284	Washington Crossroads Station 15800 N.E. 8th Bellevue, WA 98008
Penn Center Station 2 Penn Center Plaza Philadelphia, PA 19102	320 S. 2nd Avenue Sioux Falls, SD 57101	2211 North Robinson Texarkana, TX 75501	315 Prospect St. Bellingham, WA 98225
William Penn Annex Station 9th and Chestnut Sts. Philadelphia, PA 19107	Tennessee General Mail Facility 6050 Shallowford Road Chattanooga, TN 37401	221 West Ferguson Tyler, TX 75702	2828 West Sylvester Pasco, WA 99301
Casino Shannon Branch 307 Castle Shannon Blvd. Pittsburgh, PA 15232	Tom Murray Station 133 Tucker Street Jackson, TN 38301	800 Franklin Waco, TX 76701	301 Union Street Seattle, WA 98101
McKnight Branch McKnight and Soibert Roads Pittsburgh, PA 15237	501 West Main Avenue Knoxville, TN 37901	1000 Lamar Street Wichita Falls, TX 76307	West 904 Riverside Spokane, WA 99210
Seventh Avenue & Grant Street Pittsburgh, PA 15219	Colonial Finance Unit 4695 Southern Avenue Memphis, TN 38124	Utah 1760 West 2100 South Salt Lake City, UT 84119	1102 A Street Tacoma, WA 98402
59 North 5th Street Reading, PA 19603	555 South Third Memphis, TN 38101	151 West Street Rutland, VT 05701	205 West Washington Ave. Yakima, WA 98903
North Washington Ave. & Linden St. Scranton, PA 18503	Crosslawn Finance Unit 1520 Union Street Memphis, TN 38174	Vermont 1 Elmwood Avenue Burlington, VT 05401	West Virginia 301 North Street Bluefield, WV 24701
237 South Frazer Street State College, PA 16801	901 Broadway Nashville, TN 37202	151 West Street Rutland, VT 05701	Lee and Dickinson St. Charleston, WV 25301
7th and Ann Streets Stroudsburg, PA 18360	Texas 2300 South Ross Amarillo, TX 79105	Virginia 111 Sixth Street Bristol, VA 24201	500 West Pike Street Clarksburg, WV 26301
South and West Wayne Streets Wayne, PA 19087	300 East South Street Arlington, TX 76010	1155 Seminole Trail Charlottesville, VA 22906	1000 Virginia Street Huntington, WV 25704
300 S. Main St. Wilkes Barre, PA 18701	300 East 9th Austin, TX 78710	1425 Battlefield Blvd., North Chesapeake, VA 23320	217 King Street Martinsburg, WV 25401
Center City Finance Station 240 West Third Street Williamsport, PA 17703	300 Willow Beaumont, TX 77704	700 Main Street Danville, VA 24541	Wisconsin 325 East Walnut Green Bay, WI 54301
200 S. George Street York, PA 17405	809 Nueces Bay Corpus Christi, TX 78408	Morrillfield Branch 8409 Leo Highway Fairfax, VA 22116	3902 Milwaukee St. Madison, WI 53708
	400 North Ervay Street Dallas, TX 75221	809 Aberdeen Road Hampton, VA 23670	345 West St. Paul Avo. Milwaukee, WI 53203
	5300 East Paisano Dr. El Paso, TX 79910	300 Odd Fellows Road Lynchburg, VA 24506	Wyoming 2120 Capitol Avenue Cheyenne, WY 82001
		Tyson's Corner Branch Tyson's Corner Shopping Center McLean, VA 22103	
		Donhigh Station 14104 Warwick Boulevard Newport News, VA 23602	